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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2122

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E.O. 12065: GDS 8/27/85 (FRIEDMAN, TOWNSEND B.) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: (C) REPORT OF FIVE MORE DISAPPEARANCES IN EARLY TO
MID-AUGUST

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6730, (B) BUENOS AIRES 6961, (C) BUENOS AIRES
6962

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: THE EMBASSY HAS BECOME AWARE OF
FIVE MORE DISAPPEARANCES IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST. EACH OF
THESE DISAPPEARANCES APPARENTLY RELATES TO ONE OR THE OTHER
OF THE TWO DISAPPEARANCES WE REPORTED EARLIER (REF A). FOUR
OF THE SECOND BATCH OF DISAPPEARANCES HAD BEEN
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED TO THE EMBASSY (REF B)
BUT WE WERE AWAITING SOLID CONFIRMATION, WHICH WE NOW HAVE.
END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

3. ON AUGUST 24 JOSEFINA GOMEZ DE VILLAFLORES CALLED AT THE
EMBASSY AND DESCRIBED TO US THE DISAPPEARANCES OF HER SON, HER
DAUGHTER AND THEIR RESPECTIVE SPOUSES. MRS. VILLAFLORES
STATED THAT HER DAUGHTER JOSEFINA VILLAFLORES DE HASSAN (28 YEARS
OLD) HER HUSBAND, JOSE LUIS HASSAN (ABOUT 24) AND THE
COUPLE'S 2 YEAR OLD CHILD WERE TAKEN FROM THEIR HOME IN VILLA
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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DOMICO BY SIX CAR LOADS OF ARMED MEN WHO BROKE INTO THEIR HOME
LATE AUGUST 3. THE CHILD WAS RETURNED TO MRS. HASSAN THE
NEXT DAY BY AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND A

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
Exemption(s):
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

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"SERVICE STYLE" -- I.E. SHORT -- HAIRCUT. MRS. VILLAFLORE SAID THE DISAPPEARANCE WAS WITNESSED BY THE HASSAN'S NEIGHBORS, AN ASSERTION ATTESTED TO BY THE PRIEST WHO ACCOMPANIED HER TO THE EMBASSY. SHE ALSO STATED THAT SHE RECEIVED A BRIEF PHONE CALL FROM HER DAUGHTER AUGUST 4 AND MR. HASSAN'S FATHER, WHO IS JEWISH, RECEIVED A SIMILAR CALL FROM HIS SON THE SAME DAY. NEITHER FAMILY HAS HEARD FROM THE DISAPPEARED HASSANS SINCE. BOTH CALLS WERE TO THE EFFECT THE CHILD WOULD SHORTLY BE DELIVERED TO THE GRANDPARENTS.

4. MRS. VILLAFLORE STATED THAT HER SON, RAIMUNDO VILLAFLORE AND HIS WIFE ELSA MARTINEZ WERE TAKEN FROM THE SON'S PICKUP TRUCK AUGUST 4, WHEN IT WAS FORCED TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD BY TWO UNMARKED CARS. THE COUPLE WAS PUT INTO SEPARATE CARS, AND THE PICKUP DRIVEN OFF BY MEN INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION. THE VILLAFLORE'S TWO CHILDREN (AGE 5 AND 2) WHO WERE RIDING IN THE TRUCK, WERE LEFT BY THE ROADSIDE. SUBSEQUENTLY RAIMUNDO VILLAFLORE'S HOME ALSO IN VILLA DOMICO WAS BROKEN INTO, SEARCHED AND SACKED BY A GROUP OF MEN. THE WEEK OF AUGUST 20-25, A GROUP OF MEN RETURNED TO VILLAFLORE'S CARPENTER SHOP, ATTACHED TO HIS HOME, TO SEARCH AND SACKED IT. THE VILLAFLORE COUPLE HAS NOT BEEN HEARD SINCE.

5. THE VILLAFLORE FAMILY AND THE PRIEST THAT ACCOMPANIED MRS. VILLAFLORE BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT THESE DISAPPEARANCES ARE RELATED TO THAT OF JUAN CARLOS ANZORENA, WHICH TOOK PLACE AUGUST 12. THEY STATE THAT RAIMUNDO VILLAFLORE AND JOSEFINA VILLAFLORE DE HASSAN WERE INVOLVED IN THE SAME PRINTERS UNION IN THE LATE 1960'S. THEY ALSO SAID THAT THROUGH THE UNION RAIMUNDO VILLAFLORE WAS AN IMPORTANT

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FIGURE IN THE "CGT OF THE ARGENTINES." WE UNDERSTAND THE CGT OF THE ARGENTINES WAS SPLINTER CGT GROUP WITH LEFTIST, CATHOLIC LEANING, WHICH LASTED FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS FROM 1968-1970. THE PRIEST, MRS. VILLAFLORE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY CLAIMED THAT SO FAR AS THEY KNOW HER SON GAVE UP UNION AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY WHEN THE CGT OF THE ARGENTINES COLLAPSED IN 1970. THE DAUGHTER, JOSEFINA, THEY SAID WAS NEVER POLITICALLY ACTIVE AND WAS ONLY AN EMPLOYEE IN THE DISPENSARY OF THE UNION. THE ELDER MRS. VILLAFLORE AND THE PRIEST SPECULATE TO US THAT THE HASSANS MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY MISTAKE SINCE THEY WERE LIVING IN A HOME THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED BY RAIMUNDO VILLAFLORE AND HIS WIFE.

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6. MRS. VILLAFLORES HAS NOW ALSO TOLD HER STORY TO THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD WHICH PUBLISHED ELEMENTS OF THE FOREGOING AUGUST 26. THE HERALD STORY ALSO RELATES THAT THE FATHER OF VILLAFLORES IS A FORMER PERONIST MAYOR OF AVELLANEDA, A BUENOS AIRES SUBURB. INCIDENTALLY, THE FATHER WAS APPARENTLY OPPOSED TO SEEKING ANY OUTSIDE HELP, FEARING THAT TO DO SO WOULD JEOPARDIZE THE MISSING COUPLES. ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS PERSUADED THE MOTHER TO COME FORWARD.

8. THE FIFTH DISAPPEARANCE WE HEARD OF REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE AUGUST 14 WHEN FERNANDO RUBEN BRODSKY DISAPPEARED. WE HAVE NOT TALKED WITH THE BRODSKY FAMILY BUT OUR SOURCE FOR THIS REPORT IS USUALLY RELIABLE IN THESE FACTUAL MATTERS. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, BRODSKY WAS A FRIEND OF PABLO ARMANDO LEPISCOPO WHO DISAPPEARED AUGUST 5. THIS DISAPPEARANCE, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED TO ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS OR APPEARED IN THE PRESS, EVIDENTLY BECAUSE THE FAMILY PREFERES TO KEEP SILENT.

9. FINALLY WE HAVE EARLIER REPORTED THAT LEPISCOPO CALLED HIS MOTHER AND STATED HE WOULD BE HOME "WITHIN THREE DAYS". THE SAME SOURCE THAT TOLD US OF BRODSKY'S DISAPPEARANCE
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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ALSO MAINTAINED THAT LEPISCOPO HAS CALLED HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW WITH A SIMILAR MESSAGE.

10 COMMENT: THE AMBASSADOR PLANS TO SEE GENERAL VIOLA IN A FEW DAYS AND WILL RAISE THESE DISAPPEARANCES WITH HIM AT THAT TIME. END COMMENT.
CASTRO
[REDACTED]

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